
Conference SSA 2023

International Scientific Conference

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, IDENTITIES AND DEMOCRATIC INTEGRATION

(Niš, Faculty of Philosophy, 6 and 7 October 2023)

Serbian Sociological Association and the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš, are organizing the international scientific conference titled *Regional Development, Identities and Democratic Integration*, to be held at the Faculty of Philosophy in Niš on 6 and 7 October 2023.

Today, evenly distributed regional development is no longer viewed in terms of stronger national economies and better utilization of economic capacities. On the contrary, balanced regional development is considered as one of the crucial conditions of social development and reduced global and national polarization, and as such it has become the key for attaining a more equitable society. Since Serbia is one of the countries with the most pronounced disproportions in regional and social development in Europe, reexamination of the contributory mechanisms and factors, as well as their effects, is an endeavor that warrants a scientific discussion. However, we also invite international authors to share their work as we are equally looking for contributions from contextually diverse (social, cultural, legal, etc.) settings that would be of relevance for examination of Serbian experience. Within the context of regional development, it is important to examine sustainability in terms of specific environmental issues. No less important is to examine regional identities, identifications with a region, and the ingrained cultural patterns and practices, which may either encourage or hinder regional development. Therefore, we kindly invite fellow sociologists and other colleagues working in related disciplines to take part in the discussion of this important and current topic from the perspective of their discipline or from a multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary perspective.

Authors are invited to submit theoretical or empirical papers concerning the following topics/issues:

- Recent theoretical approaches to the study of regions and regional development;

- Evenly distributed regional development: examination of the concept and its significance in different scientific fields;
- Actors of regional development (public, private, civil society);
- Political representation of a region – models and limitations;
- Regions and regionalization: normative and legal aspects;
- Serbia and regional inequalities;
- Intraregional inequalities (downtown-suburbs, urban-rural);
- Territorial capital and possibilities of regional development;
- Demographic trends in the context of regional development;
- Migrations and their implications for regional development;
- Regional entrepreneurship as a factor of economic and social development of a region;
- Regional differences and urban development;
- The environment – beneficiary or victim of regional development;
- Place of the environment in regional politics;
- Climate change and regional development;
- Importance of human capital for evenly distributed regional development;
- Identity of a region and regional identity;
- Regional identifications and regional identities as either a resource or a stigma;
- Quality of life, subjective well-being and humane development in light of regional differences;
- Underdevelopment of regions and regional inequalities as potential triggers of social conflicts;
- Possibilities and limitations of planning and guiding regional development;
- Public policy models and institutional mechanisms for incentivizing regional development and democratic integrations of Serbian society;
- Supranational regional integrations: facts and prospects;
- Regional policies in the EU;
- Serbia's EU integration and evenly distributed regional development.

Other papers examining the issues related to the main topic are also welcome.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Deadline for conference application and abstract submission; 10 June 2023; up to two (2) authors per paper are allowed.

Deadline for abstract acceptance notification: 30 June 2023

Deadline for notification about the definitive Conference agenda: 15 September 2023

Conference dates and location: 6 and 7 October 2023, Faculty of Philosophy in Niš (Ćirila and Metodija 2, 18101 Niš, Serbia)

Conference languages: South Slavic languages and English

Deadline for full paper submission: 1 December 2023; Authors will receive detailed paper submission guidelines together with the notification of abstract acceptance. Upon review, the papers will be published as international conference proceedings.

Conference fee: For participants from Serbia: 6,000 dinars (RSD), payable to the Serbian Sociological Association, account number 205-65241-14 at NLB Komercijalna banka, purpose of payment "Conference fee". The fee covers refreshment during breaks between sessions and the conference dinner (Saturday, 7 Oct 2023) as well as conference materials. Conference fee payment deadline is 1 September 2023.

Abstract submission e-mail: konferencija2023@ssd.org.rs

Abstracts must contain the following: first name, middle initial, and last name of the author(s); affiliation (university, faculty, college, department, city, country); e-mail address of the first author as a footnote (for further communication); paper title and abstract body (up to 250 words) + key words (up to 5 key words/phrases). Abstracts are to be submitted in Serbian and English using the above guidelines.